

TREE RISK ASSESSMENTS – Allotments and Jubilee Field

The Parish Council is responsible for trees on any land it owns or leases, including some boundaries as identified on the lease and/or land registry documents. Management of these is required as part of the Council's risk management processes.

The Clerk contacted the tree inspector who has previously risk assessed trees for the Parish Council at the allotments and Jubilee Field, as the next assessment of trees on the southeastern boundary of the allotments is due. The inspector came back with some proposals for full site inspections of both the allotments and Jubilee Field for consideration.

Allotments

- The field is rented from Willand United Charities for the purpose of providing allotments for the village, this includes responsibility for boundary hedges and trees.
- The allotment rent charged to the tenants includes a sum towards the maintenance of these. As hedge cutting and tree work is not required each year, the sum is carried over and held in the allotment reserve until required.
- Historically, the large oak trees on the Southeastern boundary have been inspected every 2 years. In 2022 this was at a cost of £195 plus mileage plus VAT. No further tree work was required at that time – some tree work had been undertaken two years previously. The next inspection is now due. Hedges are cut by the handyman as required
- The company that undertakes our tree risk assessments has suggested that it would be prudent to carry out a whole site tree risk assessment. These should be carried out once every 4 years. A price has been quoted of £298.20 plus VAT. This includes a detailed tree assessment for those larger trees previously assessed and any others identified as requiring this.
- The Council can choose to have this done or just a targeted assessment of the southeastern boundary trees as previously. The difference in cost is approximately £100.
- There are sufficient funds within this year's allotment revenue budget to carry out the assessment. £415 is allocated for trees.
- If tree work is required as a result of the assessment there is a further £2,492 in the allotment reserve.

Jubilee Field

- The field is part owned and part leased from Mid-Devon District Council. The Parish Council has responsibility for any trees within the boundary line in the area it owns. In the leased area the Parish Council is responsible for the southwestern boundary as marked on the lease map as well as one tree in the field.
- In early 2023 the trees on the southwestern boundary were inspected and some work carried out. The assessment cost was £197 plus VAT. Tree work was carried out following the inspection at a cost of £659 plus VAT.

- The company that undertakes our tree risk assessments has suggested that it would be prudent to carry out a whole site tree risk assessment. These should be carried out once every 4 years. A price has been quoted of £298.20 plus VAT. This includes a detailed tree assessment for those larger trees previously assessed and any others identified as requiring this.
- The Council can choose to have this done or just a periodic targeted assessment of the southwestern boundary. The difference in cost is approximately £100.
- The cost can be paid from the Jubilee Field Reserve.

Debbie Bird
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